## CLAIMS

1	1.	A method of recording data, comprising:
2		establishing a scheduled start time to start recording the data;
3		recording the data, the recording starting at a time prior to the scheduled start
4		time; and
5		responsive to a command to play the recorded data from a beginning, playing
6		the recorded data starting with data recorded at the scheduled start
7		time.
1	2.	The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2		responsive to receiving a command during playback of the data, playing back
3		at least a portion of the data recorded prior to the scheduled start time.
1	3.	The method of claim 1, wherein the recording step comprises the step of:
2		recording the data onto a random-access recording medium.
1	4.	The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
2		displaying a counter indicating a time base for the recorded data.
1	5.	The method of claim 4, wherein the counter counts a time elapsed since
2	the schedu	aled start time.
1	6.	The method of claim 4, wherein the counter counts data recorded between
2	the record	start and the scheduled start time as negative time.
1	7.	The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
2		displaying a user interface allowing selection of a record start time prior to the
3		scheduled start time;
4		wherein the recording step starts recording at the selected record start time.

1	8.	A digital video recorder (DVR) for digitally recording video data,
2	comprising	
3		a random-access recording medium;
4		an input for receiving the video data;
5		a processor for controlling the operation of the DVR; and
6		a program logic memory for storing program logic modules for execution by
7		the processor, the modules comprising:
8		a module for establishing a scheduled start time to start recording the
9		video data to the recording medium;
10		a module for recording the video data on the recording medium, the
11		recording starting at a time prior to the scheduled start time; and
12		a module for playing back the recorded data responsive to a command
13		received by the DVR, the playback starting with the data recorded
14		at the scheduled start time.
1	9.	The DVR of claim 8, wherein the modules further comprise:
2		a module for playing back at least a portion of the video data recorded prior to
3		the scheduled start time responsive to a command received during
4		playback of the recorded video data.
1	10.	The DVR of claim 8, wherein the modules further comprise:
2		a module for displaying a user interface allowing selection of a recording start
3		time prior to the scheduled start time;
4		wherein the module for recording the video data starts recording at the
5		selected recording start time.
1	11.	The DVR of claim 10, wherein the modules further comprise:
2		a module for displaying a graphical indication that a recording start time prior
3		to the scheduled start time is selected.

1	12.	The DVR of claim 8, wherein the modules further comprise:		
2	a	module for displaying a counter counting a time base for the recorded video		
3		data.		
1	13.	The DVR of claim 12, wherein the counter counts a time elapsed since the		
2	scheduled sta	art time.		
1	14.	The DVR of claim 12, wherein the counter counts the time base of data		
2	recorded bety	ween the record start and the scheduled start time as negative time.		
1	15.	The DVR of claim 8, further comprising:		
2	a	channel guide database operatively coupled to the processor for storing		
3		channel guide data, wherein the scheduled start time is established		
4		responsive to the channel guide data.		
1	16.	The DVR of claim 15, wherein the channel guide data identifies programs		
2	and further comprising:			
3	a	criteria database operatively coupled to the processor for storing criteria for		
4		selecting one or more of the programs identified by the channel guide		
5		data, wherein the scheduled start time is established responsive to the		
6		one or more programs identified by the criteria database.		
1	17.	A computer program product comprising:		
2	a	computer-usable medium having computer-readable code embodied therein		
3		for controlling a digital video recorder (DVR), the DVR adapted to		
4		receive video data, the computer-readable code comprising:		
5		a module for establishing a scheduled time to start recording the video		
6		data;		
7		a module for recording the video data starting at a time prior to the		
8		scheduled start time; and		

9	a module for playing back the recorded data responsive to a command			
10	received by the DVR, the playback starting with the data recorded			
11	at the scheduled start time.			
1	18. The computer program product of claim 17, the computer-readable code			
2	further comprising:			
3	a module for playing back at least a portion of the video data recorded prior to			
4	the scheduled start time responsive to a command received during			
5	playback of the recorded video data.			
1	19. The computer program product of claim 17, the computer-readable code			
2	further comprising:			
3	a module for displaying a user interface allowing selection of a recording start			
4	time prior to the scheduled start time;			
5	wherein the module for recording the video data starts recording at the			
6	selected recording start time.			
1	20. The computer program product of claim 19, the computer-readable code			
2	further comprising:			
3	a module for displaying a graphical indication that a recording start time prior			
4	to the scheduled start time is selected.			
1	21. The computer program product of claim 17, the computer-readable code			
2	further comprising:			
3	a module for displaying a counter counting a time base for the recorded video			
4	data.			
1	22. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the counter counts a			
2	time elapsed since the scheduled start time.			

- 1 23. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the counter counts
- 2 the time base of data recorded between the record start and the scheduled start time as
- 3 negative time.